

What is claimed is:

1. An endoluminal stent comprising:

a. a plurality of circumferential expansion elements co-axially spaced to form a generally tubular configuration and each having a generally undulating pattern of peaks and valleys interconnected by struts; and

b. a plurality of generally linear interconnecting elements interconnecting adjacent pairs of circumferential expansion elements and joined at approximate mid-points of adjacent struts along a longitudinal axis of the endoluminal stent.

2. The endoluminal stent according to Claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of circumferential expansion elements further comprises a generally zig-zag configuration along a circumferential axis of the endoluminal stent wherein the struts form generally linear sections and are interconnected at the peaks and valleys by hinge elements having a width narrower than a width of the struts.

3. The endoluminal stent according to Claim 2, wherein the plurality of generally linear interconnecting elements further comprise generally curvilinear first and second terminal sections at opposing ends of each interconnecting element that join with the struts.

4. The endoluminal stent according to Claim 3, wherein each of the plurality of circumferential expansion elements are integral and monolithic with each of the plurality of interconnecting members.

5. The endoluminal stent according to Claim 4, wherein the generally curvilinear first and second terminal sections of the plurality of generally linear interconnecting elements further comprise generally C-shaped sections.

6. The endoluminal stent according to Claim 5, wherein the generally C-shaped sections have a width narrower than a width of the remainder of the interconnecting member.

7. The endoluminal stent according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of generally linear interconnecting members are all parallel to each other.

8. The endoluminal stent according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of generally linear interconnecting members are arrayed as at least two groups of
5 interconnecting members along a longitudinal axis of the endoluminal stent, a first of the at least two groups having a different angular orientation relative to the longitudinal axis of the endoluminal stent than a second of the at least two groups.

9. The endoluminal stent according to Claim 1, wherein the endoluminal stent elongates along the longitudinal axis of the endoluminal stent as it expands from a
10 smaller diameter to a larger diameter.